



2019-2020 School Action Fund - Planning
COMPETITIVE GRANT Application Due 5:00 p.m. CT, May 2, 2019

NOGA ID

Authorizing legislation

Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 (ESEA), as amended by P.L. 114-95, Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA), Title I, Part A, Section 1003, School Improvement

Applicants must submit one original copy of the application and two copies of the application (for a **total of three copies of the application**). All three copies of the application **MUST** bear the signature of a person authorized to bind the applicant to a contractual agreement. **Applications cannot be emailed.** Applications must be received no later than the above-listed application due date and time at:

Document Control Center, Grants Administration Division
Texas Education Agency
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, TX 78701-1494

Application stamp-in date and time

RECEIVED
TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY
2019 MAY -9 PM 2:32
DOCUMENT CONTROL CENTER
GRANTS ADMINISTRATION

Grant period from **July 1, 2019 to July 31, 2020**

☒ Pre-award costs are not permitted.

Required Attachments

No attachments are required to be submitted with this application.

Amendment Number

Amendment number (For amendments only; enter N/A when completing this form to apply for grant funds):

Applicant Information

Organization **Lake Worth ISD** CDN **220910** Vendor ID **756003344** ESC **11** DUNS **79435905**
Address **6805 Telephone RD** City **Lake Worth** ZIP **176135-** Phone **817.306.4200**
Primary Contact **Cara Malone** Email **cmalone@lwisd.org** Phone **817.306.4200**
Secondary Contact **Rose Mary Neshyba** Email **rneshyba@lake-worth.k12.tx.us** Phone **817.306.4200**

Certification and Incorporation

I understand that this application constitutes an offer and, if accepted by TEA or renegotiated to acceptance, will form a binding agreement. I hereby certify that the information contained in this application is, to the best of my knowledge, correct and that the organization named above has authorized me as its representative to obligate this organization in a legally binding contractual agreement. I certify that any ensuing program and activity will be conducted in accordance and compliance with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations.

I further certify my acceptance of the requirements conveyed in the following portions of the grant application, as applicable, and that these documents are incorporated by reference as part of the grant application and Notice of Grant Award (NOGA):

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Grant application, guidelines, and instructions | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Debarment and Suspension Certification |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Provisions and Assurances | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Lobbying Certification |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Application-specific Provisions and Assurances | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ESSA Provisions and Assurances requirements |

Authorized Official Name **Rose Mary Neshyba** Title **Superintendent**

Email **rneshyba@lake-worth.k12.tx.us** Phone **817.306.4200**

Signature  Date **05/08/2019**

Grant Writer Name **ERIC KIBUDEAUX** Signature  Date **5/8/19**

☐ Grant writer is an employee of the applicant organization. ☒ Grant writer is **not** an employee of the applicant organization.

RFA # **701-19-107** SAS # **438-20**

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Shared Services Arrangements☒ SSAs are not permitted for this grant.**Identify/Address Needs**

List up to three quantifiable needs, as identified in your needs assessment, that these program funds will address. Describe your plan for addressing each need.

Quantifiable Need	Plan for Addressing Need
Only 9% of students at Marine Creek Elementary are mastering Grade Level Standards.	Explore school actions that enable the district to ensure that students are served by a high-quality school model.
Only 26% of students at Marine Creek Elementary are meeting Grade Level Standards.	Explore school actions that enable the district to ensure that students are served by a high-quality school model.
Only 54% of students at Marine Creek Elementary are approaching Grade Levels Standards.	Explore school actions that enable the district to ensure that students are served by a high-quality school model.

SMART Goal

Describe the summative SMART goal you have identified for this program (a goal that is Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Timely), either related to student outcome or consistent with the purpose of the grant.

By 2022, the percentage of students who are meeting Grade Level standards will rise from 26% to 70%.

Measurable Progress

Identify the benchmarks that you will use at the end of the first three grant quarters to measure progress toward meeting the process and implementation goals defined for the grant.

First-Quarter Benchmark

Convene 3-5 listen and learn sessions with stakeholders to determine what a great school looks and feels like in the Lake Worth community.

Measurable Progress (Cont.)

Second-Quarter Benchmark

Conduct three work sessions in collaboration with matched technical assistance provider to deeply explore school actions that are the best fit for the needs and circumstances.

Third-Quarter Benchmark

A school action is identified in collaboration with matched technical assistance provider.

Project Evaluation and Modification

Describe how you will use project evaluation data to determine when and how to modify your program. If your benchmarks or summative SMART goals do not show progress, describe how you will use evaluation data to modify your program for sustainability.

In consultation with the matched technical assistance provider and support of district project manager, Project partners will develop and formally commit to a project management plan to ensure that benchmarks and objectives are achieved. The project management plan will be memorialized in a contract with the matched technical assistance provider. Additionally, project management plan will set forth the objectives, processes and behavioral norms that will guide the school action exploration process. Progress on the metrics identified in the project plan will be reviewed at least monthly to ensure that course corrections are made in a timely way.

Statutory/Program Assurances

The following assurances apply to this grant program. In order to meet the requirements of the grant, the grantee must comply with these assurances.

Check each of the following boxes to indicate your compliance.

☒ The applicant provides assurance that program funds will supplement (increase the level of service), and not supplant (replace) state mandates, State Board of Education rules, and activities previously conducted with state or local funds. The applicant provides assurance that state or local funds may not be decreased or diverted for other purposes merely because of the availability of these funds. The applicant provides assurance that program services and activities to be funded from this grant will be supplementary to existing services and activities and will not be used for any services or activities required by state law, State Board of Education rules, or local policy.

☒ The applicant provides assurance that the application does not contain any information that would be protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) from general release to the public.

☒ The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Statutory Requirements and TEA Program Requirements as noted in the 2019-2020 School Action Fund - Planning Program Guidelines.

☒ The applicant provides assurance to adhere to all Performance Measures, as noted in the 2019-2020 School Action Fund - Planning Program Guidelines, and shall provide the Texas Education Agency and the matched school action technical assistance provider, upon request, any performance data necessary to assess the success of the program.

☒ The applicant provides assurance that it will contract and work in good faith with the TEA vetted and matched school action technical assistance provider and agency-provided technical assistance.

☒ The applicant will budget at least 25% of the total award as "Matched School Action Technical Assistance Provider" on schedule 6200.

☒ The applicant assures that contracts with matched school action technical assistance provider will be negotiated and signed by October 1, 2019.

☒ The applicant assures that a project manager will be identified. Please note: this position may be funded by other fund sources.

☒ The LEAs pursuing a partner-managed model assure that a financial spending analysis will be performed in accordance with TEA requirements.

☒ The applicant assures that all fidelity of implementation revisions will be complete on or before October 15, 2019.

☒ The applicant assures access will be provided for onsite visits to the LEA and campus by TEA and its contractors.

☒ The applicant assures attendance and participation in grant orientation meetings, technical assistance meetings, other periodic meetings of grantees, and sharing of best practices through the TEA program office.

☒ The applicant assures that an implementation plan, using a TEA approved format, will be developed with the school transformation partner by June 1, 2020.

☒ The applicant assures partners operating campuses under the partner-managed option must commit to Lone Star Governance participation.

☒ The applicant assures Pre-K "New Schools" will designate a feeder comprehensive campus by May 1, 2020.

☒ **For LEAs pursuing the Create a new school action model:** The applicant assures that enrollment at a new school must prioritize students attending or zoned to a 2018-2019 Comprehensive and/or Targeted school.

☐ **For LEAs pursuing the Partner-managed model:** The applicant assures commitment to the Adoption of Model Authorizing policy and participation in the Texas Authorizer Leadership Academy.

Statutory Requirement

Please refer to the Program Guidelines page 9 and address the six questions below:

1)

1. Describe how the LEA will carry out its school support and improvement activities, including how the LEA will develop a school improvement plan for the eligible campuses identified as a 2018–2019 Comprehensive School.

As a general matter the District facilitates a continuous improvement process to assist campuses to develop campus improvement plans, beginning with a comprehensive needs assessment, identification of areas of strengths and weaknesses, development of problem statements, root cause analysis, and high yield improvement strategies. The process of developing strategies to address school improvement usually begins in early February and culminates in the formal campus improvement plan by the end of June. For those campuses identified as 2018-2019 Comprehensive Schools, additional District support staff and resources are provided to ensure implementation of strategies identified to significantly impact student improvement in performance.

Additionally, with respect to Marine Creek Elementary, the school action exploration process will include work with the matched technical assistance provider to learn from stakeholders what their vision of a great school is and determine which school action is the best fit to achieve that vision.

2)

Describe how the LEA will monitor schools receiving Title I - Part A funds, including how the LEA will a.) Monitor school improvement plans upon submission and implementation, and b.) Implement additional action following unsuccessful implementation of such plan after a number of years determined by the district.

a)

Generally, the district ensures each campus meets regularly to evaluate the progress of strategies, monitors expenditures, and conducts walk-throughs.

b)

Campuses that are not improving as a result of the strategies in a campus improvement plan are escalated for bolder district-level interventions. We are pursuing this exploration grant as part of this escalation. As an ongoing process, we expect any partner to design a continuous feedback mechanism to communicate progress and needs to stakeholders, develop an understanding of community needs as they change, and design programmatic responses to meet those needs and the needs of students.

3)

Describe how the LEA will use a rigorous review process to recruit, screen, select, and evaluate any external partners with whom the LEA will partner. With the support of the matched technical assistance provider, the district will use a public, competitive process to evaluate any partners on the basis of the school vision identified through stakeholder convenings and with respect to following domains of competency: Organizational Structures, Processes/Procedures, Communications, and Capacity & Resources; Critical Success Factors (i.e. Academic Performance, Use of Quality Data to Drive Instruction, Leadership Effectiveness, Increased Learning Time, Family/Community Engagement, School Climate, and Teacher Quality); and Continuous Improvement Processes (i.e. Data Analysis, Needs Assessment, Implement & Monitor, and Improvement Plan).

Statutory Requirement (Cont'd)

4)

Describe how the LEA will align other Federal, State, and local resources to carry out the activities supported with funds received under this subsection.

The project manager, with the support of the matched technical assistance provider, will coordinate existing strategies and interventions, resources and facilities and other appropriate community, state, and federal resources in order to maximize the effectiveness of the grant. The district will provide existing program resources to support the proposed grant with technology equipment and training materials. Teachers and staff will also be allowed to utilize existing school facilities, computers, TV/DVD's, projectors, and overhead materials, as well as participate in staff trainings and meetings. In addition, the campuses will utilize existing staff to provide support to the school action.

5)

Describe how the LEA will modify, as appropriate, practices and policies to provide operational flexibility that enables full and effective implementation of the plans. With the support of the matched technical assistance provider, the district will collaborate with a selected partner in the development of contract that provides appropriate and sufficient flexibility with respect to people, time, money, and program. More specifically, the parties will determine the respective roles in assuring smooth operation. The services to be provided by the district will be clearly identified. The applicable local policies and modifications will be clearly identified. The performance goals and consequences that are established by the district's board of trustees, and that ultimately govern the relationship, will be clearly defined.

6)

Describe how the selected school action model will incorporate one or more evidence-based strategies during the implementation phase.

The district's selection of a school action will ensure that any partner, if selected, commits to evidence-based strategies across the instructional program, talent, and culture. The district will fully collaborate with the matched technical assistance provider to clarify the specific categories of evidence-based strategies that are critical to the success of the selected school action.

TEA Program Requirements

TEA Program Requirement 1: Please identify one of the following eligible school action models. Once selected, please indicate whether the school action model will be district or partner managed. ***Note:** The district or partner managed option should only be selected if the LEA chooses from one of the following school action models: "Restart a struggling school" or "Create a new school". Additionally, the LEA may only select the partner-managed option for the "Replicate a successful school model".

Select one school action model below:**Select how model will be managed:**

- ☐ Restart a struggling school
- ☐ Create a new school
- ☐ Replicate a successful school (must select Partner-managed option)
- ☐ Reassign students from a struggling school (type of model management does not apply)
- ☒ Exploratory planning (type of model management does not apply)

- ☐ District-managed
- ☐ Partner-managed

TEA Program Requirement 2: Please describe the following:

a) Please describe the evaluation process and criteria utilized for selecting the school action model.

The project manager will collaborate with the matched technical assistance provider to lead a needs assessment process that is designed to assess both the needs of the student population at the school but also, more broadly, the gaps in the array of educational models available to the community. As part of this process, the project team will conduct in-depth review of the needs of the students, teaching staff, and community. Elements of the needs assessment will also include the review of the experience/capabilities of the school leadership team, instructional programs that are currently being utilized at the campus, and the infrastructure that is available for student and teacher use. Based on this analysis, and the information gathered through the stakeholder convenings, district leadership will work with the matched technical assistance provider to determine the school action that will most expeditiously enable students to be served by a high-quality school model. Criteria will include whether there is an available school model that has the performance history with similar populations, whether the school action addresses ongoing talent gaps, whether it is sustainable under available resources, and whether the action/model can be achieved with strong community support.

TEA Program Requirements

b) Please describe the district vision for improving the campus(es) or engaging in a thoughtful planning process to implement a school action.

The district is fully committed to providing students at the school with a high-quality school model. The planning process will be developed in close collaboration with matched technical assistance provider, but as a general matter will include the following elements:

Orientation and Outreach: Internal and external stakeholders will be oriented to the possible school actions that the district is exploring. This orientation will culminate in focus groups that enable the district to distill the community's vision of a great school. Documentation will include meeting logs and parent/community sign in sheets.

Research Reviews: The district will work with the matched technical assistance provide to conduct a review of the literature addressing the strategies and structures most effective with this student population.

Option Reviews: District leadership will convene stakeholders to explore the school actions and models that are most closely aligned with the research base for the student population and needs.

Change Management: The district will work with the matched TA provider to harvest learnings from other districts implementing bold school actions and develop a multi-year change management plan.

c) Please describe how the grant aligns to and accelerates the district's broader strategy and theory of action.

The district is going through a significant period of evolution as it on-boards a significant number of new school leaders and cabinet members. Our board is strongly committed to raising academic performance and has taken learning trips to other districts, including those exploring the System of Great Schools, in order to select a theory of action that suits our community. Our interest in this grant is driven by our eagerness to explore approaches that have yielded step-change results with similar populations of students. We welcome the support of a matched technical assistance provider and other resources in setting our course.

d) Please identify the district staff member to coordinate the planning grant and the qualifications of the identified staff member.

The district is in the process of recruiting a person who will fulfill this role and ultimately serve as the Chief Innovation Officer. The person selected will ideally have had both school and central office leadership roles; strong ability to collect, analyze and use multiple sources of data; capacity to design and shepherd organizational change as necessary to accommodate autonomous schools; excellent communication and collaborative abilities; and financial analysis skills.

Equitable Access and Participation

Check the appropriate box below to indicate whether any barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups that receive services funded by this grant.

- ☒ The applicant assures that no barriers exist to equitable access and participation for any groups receiving services funded by this grant.
- ☐ Barriers exist to equitable access and participation for the following groups receiving services funded by this grant, as described below.

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

Group Barrier

PNP Equitable Services

Are any private nonprofit schools located within the applicant's boundaries?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

Are any private nonprofit schools participating in the grant?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If you answered "No" to the preceding question, stop here. You have completed the section. Proceed to the next page.

5A: Assurances

- ☐ The LEA assures that it discussed all consultation requirements as listed in Section 1117(b)(1) and/or Section 8501(c)(1), as applicable, with all eligible private nonprofit schools located within the LEA's boundaries.
- ☐ The LEA assures the appropriate Affirmations of Consultation will be provided to TEA's PNP Ombudsman in the manner and time requested.

5B: Equitable Services Calculation

1. LEA's student enrollment	<input type="text"/>
2. Enrollment of all participating private schools	<input type="text"/>
3. Total enrollment of LEA and all participating PNPs (line 1 plus line 2)	<input type="text"/>
4. Total current-year grant allocation	<input type="text"/>
5. LEA reservation for direct administrative costs, not to exceed the grant's defined limit	<input type="text"/>
6. Total LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 4 minus line 5)	<input type="text"/>
7. Per-pupil LEA amount for provision of ESSA PNP equitable services (line 6 divided by line 3)	<input type="text"/>
LEA's total required ESSA PNP equitable services reservation (line 7 times line 2)	<input type="text"/>

Request for Grant Funds

List all of the allowable grant-related activities for which you are requesting grant funds. Include the amounts budgeted for each activity. Group similar activities and costs together under the appropriate heading. During negotiation, you will be required to budget your planned expenditures on a separate attachment provided by TEA.

PAYROLL COSTS (6100)**BUDGET**

Project Manager/Chief Innovation Officer

105,000

PROFESSIONAL AND CONTRACTED SERVICES (6200)

Matched TA Provider

75,000

Stakeholder convenings and community engagement

25,000

Performance data, communications, and financial analysis

30,000

SUPPLIES AND MATERIALS (6300)

Computers for new staff, collateral for stakeholder meetings, surveys

45,000

OTHER OPERATING COSTS (6400)

Learning trips for stakeholders

20,000

CAPITAL OUTLAY (6600)

Total Direct Costs

300,000

Indirect Costs

TOTAL BUDGET REQUEST (Direct Costs + Indirect Costs)

300,000